

of the influence of the prescription drug industry. They wanted a bill that provided a subsidy to the private insurance companies and not a Medicare benefit, and the prescription drug industry wanted to make sure that there was nothing in the Republican bill that would reduce prices.

I say that because more and more information comes out on a daily basis about the influence of the prescription drug industry. Soon after the House passed the Republican bill, the President released a study by the Department of Health and Human Services that basically said that the only way to go was to give money to private insurers; that a Medicare benefit and a program that controlled cost would actually hurt research and development of new drugs.

This was in *The Washington Post* on Thursday, July 11. It said, "The Bush administration plans to issue a study today suggesting that any new prescription drug coverage for older Americans must rely on the private sector to provide it, warning that too much government regulation could hinder access to promising new therapies. The report described effective drug therapies, and says that cost containment efforts would fail."

The bottom line is, who put out this report? We find out that the former vice president of policy for PHRMA, the prescription drug trade group, is in charge of Secretary Thompson's planning department. This is the same department that generated this study warning that a drug benefit delivered through Medicare would devastate R&D and harm seniors.

It is simply not true. It is because of the influence of the prescription drug industry, and even the policymakers in the White House that used to work for them, that now we have both the industry and the advertisements paid for by the prescription drug industry and the people at the White House coming out and saying, go to the private sector; do not do a Medicare benefit, do not control costs.

Now, by contrast to that prejudiced, if you will, study that came out from the White House, and essentially from former PHRMA people, Families USA did a report just last week issued on July 17. Their report showed that U.S. drug companies that market the 50 most prescribed drugs to seniors spent almost 2½ times as much on marketing, advertising and administration as they spend on research and development in 2001.

The report essentially debunks President Bush's recent assertion through that study of HHS, and the drug companies' claims, that rising and fast-rising drug prices are needed to support R&D. So if we look at the facts, we find out that it is not that the brand name drug companies need more money because they are going to do more R&D and come up with better drugs, it is because they are spending so much on marketing and advertising and admin-

istration, and also paying their CEOs very high salaries. That is the reason why they want the higher drug prices.

We must point this out on a regular basis.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 34 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

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#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida) at 10 a.m.

#### PRAYER

Captain Jeff Struecker, Chaplain, 3rd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God and Father of my Savior, I lift up to You these men and women that You have selected to serve this great Nation. I pray that You would etch onto the souls of every man and woman here the awesome sense of responsibility for the office that they hold and the weight of that thought would drive them to their knees, every morning seeking Your leadership, as they lead this Nation, especially right now with America's sons and daughters at war.

I pray that You would also balance that serious sense of responsibility with the pleasure of knowing that they are serving as Your appointed leaders in the greatest Nation on Earth.

Father, finally I pray that You will protect those men and women who are right now involved with this war on terrorism. Give them Your peace, give them Your presence, give them Your protection. I pray. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McNULTY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all

#### INTRODUCTION OF CAPTAIN JEFF STRUECKER AS GUEST CHAPLAIN

(Mr. COLLINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to introduce Captain Jeff Struecker, Chaplain, United States Army, 3rd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. Chaplain Jeff Struecker was born in Fort Dodge, Iowa. He entered the Army as an enlisted soldier in September, 1987. He attended basic training, AIT, airborne school, and the Ranger Indoc-trination Program at Fort Benning, Georgia.

His combat experience includes participation in Operation Just Cause in Panama, Operation Iris Gold in Kuwait, and Operation Gothic Serpent, UNOSOM Two, Mogadishu, Somalia.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Struecker served in the United States Army as an enlisted soldier until April of 2000. Afterward he entered the Chaplain Officers Basic Course. While serving in Mogadishu, Somalia, Sergeant Struecker was involved in a 17-hour firefight which was later portrayed in the book and movie "Black Hawk Down." As a teenager, Jeff Struecker accepted Christ as his Savior. His faith was strengthened in Mogadishu as Captain Struecker recounted, and I quote, "In the middle of that firefight, I had to decide whether I believed what I say I believe. And when I finally answered that question, my faith became so strong, it gave me the strength to fight for the rest of the night."

Captain Struecker has received many awards and citations for his bravery, including the Bronze Star with the V device. He and his wife, Dawn, reside in Linden, North Carolina, with their five children, Aaron, Jacob, Joseph, Abigail, and Lydia.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to have Chaplain Jeff Struecker as Chaplain today in the United States House of Representatives.